

# State Revolving Fund Loan Programs

**Drinking Water, Wastewater, Nonpoint Source** 

#### PROGRAM UPDATE

April 2004

More good news! In addition to the two new programs described below, our interest rates have just been reduced. This is the third interest rate reduction in the past six months and shows that the new interest rate policy designed to track current market conditions is working. Our new rates range from 2.58% to 3.83% for communities closing loans between April 1 and June 30, 2004.

Jim McGoff, Executive Director Indiana SRF Loan Programs

## **Grant Money Available for Planning and Design!**

The SRF Program is pleased to announce a new grant program to assist communities with the planning and design costs tied to SRF-funded projects. The Small System Technical Assistance Fund (SSTAF) will provide up to 20 grants to communities prepared to plan and design their SRF funded projects during State Fiscal Year 2005 (July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005). The funds will pay for up to 100% of a community's planning and design costs, not to exceed \$25,000.

All communities that have submitted an application to the SRF Program to be ranked on the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2005 Project Priority List (PPL) for either a Wastewater or Drinking Water SRF Loan will be considered for a SSTAF grant. Grants will be awarded to the top-ranked communities on each PPL who are within the population limitations. Dependent upon how many eligible projects are ranked, the Program will grant funds to eight to 12 applicants on each PPL.

The respective Program Administrator (see below) will determine which communities qualify for funding and how much money is available based upon demand. The eligible recipients will be chosen based on:

- Population (for wastewater, the utility must serve less than 3,500 and for drinking water, less than 10,000);
- New applications (funds will not be made available for applicants that have submitted a PER to the SRF Program prior to Jan. 1, 2004);
- The ability of the applicant to submit required information to the SRF Program for review within the required programmatic timeframes; and
- PPL Ranking.

If your project is chosen to receive SSTAF funding, your project's designated signatory will be contacted by the appropriate SRF Program Administrator.

The SSTAF grants are not a continuation of the State Budget Agency's Supplemental Drinking Water Wastewater Assistance Fund (SDWWAF) program. Unlike SDWAFF grants which were limited to PER related expenses, SSTAF funds may be used for all planning and design related costs associated with an SRF financed project. Furthermore, the entire grant amount will be awarded when your project's plans and specifications have been submitted for construction permit approval.

For more information, please contact WWSRF Administrator Arthur Carter at 317/233-2474, or DWSRF Administrator Cortney Stover at 317/232-8663.

# **Trying to Meet the New Drinking Water Standards?**

If you're like a lot of small systems in Indiana, complying with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) puts a strain on your pocketbook. Recognizing that the most recent changes to the SDWA will put even more fiscal pressure on small systems, the SRF Program has established the Safe Drinking Water Standards Fund (SDWS Fund). The new Fund provides grants towards treatment upgrades that will bring small systems into compliance with stricter standards for surface water treatment and the lowered Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) for arsenic, radionuclides, and disinfection byproducts.

Any public water system or political subdivision may apply as long as:

- ♦ The system serves less than 10,000;
- The Median Household Income (to be derived from 2000 census data) is less than \$41,567;
- The eligible entity provides data showing the need for treatment upgrades as required by the new SDWA rules.

### Please note our change in address:

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The Drinking Water SRF Program has allocated approximately \$300,000 towards the new Fund. The grant funds may be used to pay for up to 50% of the costs associated with qualified treatment upgrades, additions or connection to another system, not to exceed \$30,000 per applicant.

To apply for these funds, simply fill out one of our DWSRF Applications, which can be printed from our website at *www.srf.in.gov*. Specify in the Financial Information portion whether you are applying for SDWS Funds, an SRF loan, or both. Be sure to provide data to backup your need for the new treatment (i.e. raw water analysis) and any other information that would be relevant.

For more information, please contact Cortney Stover, DWSRF Administrator, at 317/232-8663 or *cstover@dem.state.in.us*.

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